

Message Text

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PAGE 01 MANILA 12017 280812Z

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ACTION NODS-00

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /001 W

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R 280607Z AUG 75

FM AMEMBASSY MANILA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6971

C O N F I D E N T I A L MANILA 12017

NODIS

STADIS//////////

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OTRA, OVIP (FORD, GERALD R.)

SUBJECT: POSSIBLE VISIT OF PRESIDENT FORD TO PHILIPPINES

EYES ONLY HABIB FROM SULLIVAN

REF: A. MANILA 11623

B. STATE 204200

1. THANKS FOR YOUR ASSURANCES CONTAINED REF B.

2. YOU SHOULD BE AWARE, HOWEVER, THAT IT IS BECOMMING INCREASINGLY DIFFICULT TO "NOT DISCUSS THE PROSPECTS." AS RESULT MANSFIELD CONVERSATION REPORTED REF A, FILIPINOS HAVE JUMPED TO EUPHORIC CONCLUSION THAT TRIP IS ALL IN THE BAG.

2. YESTERDAY, FOR EXAMPLE, MARCOS TALKED TO ME ABOUT MILITARY BASE NEGOTIATIONS SCHEDULE WITH AN EYE TO HOW FAR WE COULD GET "BEFORE FORD VISIT." SIMILARLY, ROMULO RAISED WITH ME THE POSSIBLE CONFLICT OF ASEAN SUMMIT WITH "THE FORD VISIT," AND ASSURED ME HE WOULD RETURN FROM UNGA WHENEVER TIMING FOR VISIT BECOMES FIRM.

3. I HAVE GIVEN THE APPROPRIATE NON-COMMITTAL ANSWERS TO ALL THESE OBSERVATIONS, AND SO FAR, THE SUBJECT SEEMS TO
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BE CLOSELY HELD. HOWEVER, I EXPECT IT TO SEEP OUT GENERALLY

IN THIS POROUS SOCIETY AND TRUST TOLERANCE WILL PREVAIL
IN WASHINGTON WHEN IT DOES.
SULLIVAN

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Message Attributes

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